Message Text

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R 182159Z DEC 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID
INFO AMCONSUL BARCELONA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, SP, OVIP

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

- 1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CONSIDERING HOW WE SHOULD DEAL WITH SPANISH DISSATISFACTION REGARDING CURRENT STATE OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, INCLUDING THEIR FEELING THAT JEC MECHANISM HAS BEEN NEGLECTED. WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY THAT IT IS DESIRABLE TO SCHEDULE SOON A MEETING OF JEC AND HAVE PROPOSED TO SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DENT THAT HE HEAD A U.S. DELEGATION WHICH WOULD VISIT MADRID FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE SECRETARY HAS AGREED. IF A MEETING IS ARRANGED SECRETARY WOULD LEAD SMALL, INTER-AGENCY DELEGATION.
- 2. DURING EARLY OCTOBER CALL ON SECRETARY DENT, COMMERCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTER FERNANDEZ-CUESTA INVITED HIM TO VISIT SPAIN.

HE ALSO DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF CONVENING A MEETING OF JEC. IN RESPONSE TO THE MINISTER'S CITING OF SPANISH COMPLAINTS ABOUT PAST LACK OF CONSULTATIONS, SECRETARY DENT OFFERED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR DIVERSIFICATION OF SPANISH EXPORTS AND RELATED ISSUES.

3. IN ORDER TO BEGIN TO LAY FOUNDATION FOR JEC MEETING, OFFICIALS AS TO AGENDA AND TIMING. YOU MAY TELL SPANISH THAT WE ENVISAGE A LIMITED, WELL DEFINED AGENDA CENTERING

ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT ISSUES. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO HAVE SUBJECT OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON THE AGENDA SINCE THE ACTION TAKEN IS REQUIRED BY U.S. LAW. ON TIMING, EMBASSY SHOULD EXPLORE WITH GOS POSSIBILITY OF VISIT IN LATTER PART OF MARCH.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON LIKELY PRIORITY OF SPANISH INTERESTS AS WELL AS EMBASSY THOUGHTS ON TOPICS WHICH MAY ARISE THOUGH NOT MENTIONED BY SPANISH AT THIS TIME. KISSINGER

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